

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MARCH 1943

[Compiled by Mary O. Souder]

[The table herewith contains such data as has been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the United States Meteorological Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
DeLand, Fla.	3	4 p. m.				Squall.....	Trees blown down; small buildings unroofed and otherwise damaged; considerable damage reported.
San Augustine, Tex.	5	4:45 p. m.	400	1	\$500,000	Tornado.....	8 persons injured; no crop loss.
Jacksonville, Fla., and vicinity.	6	8:45 a. m.			500,000	Straight-line-wind...	Damage widespread over the city and county, the greatest damage invariably being observed in areas where open space without obstructions to windward permitted an increased sweep of the wind to higher velocities. 30 persons required treatment for injuries. No tornadic formation observed, but such was possible over small localities.
Charleston, S. C., 7 miles north.	12	8:15-8:25 p. m.			5,000	Thundersqualls....	Damage mostly to garages, particularly those without doors, and it appeared that the wind had lifted them from their foundations and let them down a few feet away where they had collapsed; area widespread.
Minnesota, southern and eastern counties.	14-16	.....		2	300,000	Glaze, sleet, snow, and wind.	Telephone, telegraph, and electric service disrupted; all traffic delayed. In some places trees and shrubs damaged considerably. In Duluth, Minn., from 6 to 13 inches of snow fell. Maximum wind velocity for a 5-minute period recorded as 47 miles from the northeast at 5:56 p. m., on the 15th. The Park Point district completely isolated from the remainder of the city and drifts reported from 15 to as much as 25 feet high. Bus schedules disrupted being seriously handicapped by low visibility and many manufacturing plants were idle as employees could not get to work. On the 14th and 15th schools were closed, public meetings postponed, and persons advised to stay at home. By afternoon of the 16th most highways and city streets were cleared and business resumed.
Madison, Dallas, and Polk Counties, Iowa.	15	4 p. m.	167-334	0	10,000	Tornado.....	Storm traveled through a rural area and lifted frequently over a path above 30 miles long; 1 person injured.
Decatur and Lucas Counties, Iowa.	15	5:30 p. m.		0		.....do.....	Storm developed in Decatur County and traveled northeastward for about 12 miles into Lucas County; occurring in a rural area, lifting and dipping at times with great destruction where it traveled along the ground.
Marshalltown, Iowa, and vicinity.	15	6 p. m.		0		Tornado and hail....	The tornado dipped to the ground and wrecked buildings on a farm 5 miles south of Green Mountain. The monetary value of the property destroyed is not known. It would have been possible for this storm to have been a redevelopment of the Dallas-Polk County twister, but definite evidence to connect the two phenomena is lacking.
Hancock, Iowa, vicinity of...	15	3 p. m.		0		Tornado.....	Following a thunderstorm and a heavy fall of hail, a black cloud developed into a tornado funnel. The cloud rose and fell, but remained aloft most of the time. Damage mostly confined to telephone wires. No further details are available, except that it became much colder shortly after the tornado passed.
Independence, Iowa.....	15	7:15 p. m.		0	250,000	.....do.....	Buildings wrecked in an area 176 yards long and 59 yards wide. The area of destruction was crescent shaped, curving from southeast to northwest and then northeast. 6 persons were injured.
Andrew, Iowa, vicinity of....	15	9 p. m.		0		.....do.....	No details of this storm are available, but because synoptic weather conditions favored development of tornadoes, and, because of the prevalence of such storms on this date, it is being classified as one.
Douglas, Bayfield, and Ashland Counties, Wis.	15-16	.....				Strong winds and snow.	Traffic almost at standstill and most schools closed; many drifts 7 feet deep. In Superior streets were impassable and the city bus service was badly disrupted or stopped.
Wisconsin, west-central portion.	15-16	.....				Glaze and wind....	The deposit of glaze varied in thickness from light to heavy and damage to poles and wires was quite extensive.
South Dakota, entire State...	15-17	.....				High winds and snow.	Rain turned to snow accompanied by fresh to strong winds and temperatures lowering to below zero by the 16th. Business was disrupted with traffic cancelled or delayed and communication lines damaged. There were stock losses in the western border counties; some schools closed and several persons injured on icy walks.
Winona, Minn.	16	8:30 p. m. to midnight.				Glaze.....	Heavy rain froze as it fell, caused severe property damage. Poles and wires broken by weight of ice caused disruption of telephone and electric service. Highways slippery and little motor travel.
Tylertown, Miss., vicinity of.	18	.....		0	2,000	Tornado.....	Property damaged.
Harrison County, Ind.....	19	2:15 p. m.	433	0	10,000	.....do.....	Damage mostly to school buildings in Laconia; 2 boys slightly injured.
Devine, Tex.....	24	6:20-6:50 p. m.			43,700	Hail, straight-line wind.	Damage to buildings, \$2,500; loss in crops and stock, \$41,200.